

**MUNICIPAL MINUTES, CITY OF TUPELO**  
**STATE OF MISSISSIPPI**

**MARCH 4, 2014**

Be it remembered that the regular meeting of the Tupelo City Council was held in the Council Chambers at the City Hall Building on Tuesday, March 4, 2014, at 6:00 p.m. with the following in attendance: Council Members Markel Whittington, Lynn Bryan, Jim Newell, Nettie Y. Davis, Buddy Palmer, Mike Bryan and Willie Jennings; City Attorney Ben Logan; and Glenda Muse, Clerk of the Council.

The invocation was led by Larry London, a friend of Councilman Buddy Palmer, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by a group of Girl Scouts.

**IN THE MATTER OF CALLING THE MEETING TO ORDER**

President Davis called the regular meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**IN THE MATTER OF CONFIRMATION OR**  
**AMENDMENT OF AGENDA AND AGENDA ORDER**

Upon a motion by Councilman M. Bryan, seconded by Councilman Palmer, the council voted unanimously to confirm the agenda and agenda order, amended as follows:

**ADD:**           #4.6.A           Proclamation in recognition of “Child Abuse Prevention Month”

**DELETE:**                   Executive Session

**4.     PROCLAMATIONS, RECOGNITIONS AND REPORTS AGENDA**

**IN THE MATTER OF RECOGNITION OF BOY/GIRL SCOUTS**

A group of Girl Scouts was present, together with Jenny H. Jones, Director of Marketing and Communications, Girl Scouts Heart of the South, to receive a Proclamation read and presented by Mayor Shelton proclaiming the week of March 9- 15, 2014, as “Girl Scout Week”. March 12, 2014, marks the 102<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of Girl Scouts of the USA, founded by Juliette Gordon Low in 1912 in Savannah, Georgia. Throughout these many years, Girl Scouting has inspired millions of girls and women with the highest ideals of courage, confidence, and character. The girls had previously led the Pledge of Allegiance and after the presentation of the Proclamation presented the Mayor and City Council with boxes of Girl Scout cookies.

**IN THE MATTER OF RECOGNITION OF CITY EMPLOYEES**

No city employees were present for recognition.

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**IN THE MATTER OF PUBLIC RECOGNITIONS**

Council President Nettie Davis announced two upcoming events in the city. On Friday, March 7, 2014, the “Women of Distinction” awards will be presented. This will be held at the BancorpSouth Conference Center beginning at 11:30 a.m.

On March 15, 2014, “Our Mississippi Honors” will be held at the BancorpSouth Conference Center beginning at 6:00 p.m. This event is being sponsored by Toyota in celebration of diversity in business, recognizing those corporations that have distinguished themselves in promoting diversity and inclusion in our state.

**IN THE MATTER OF PROCLAMATION IN RECOGNITION OF**  
**“COLORECTAL CANCER AWARENESS MONTH”**

Dr. Stephen T. Amann accepted a Proclamation from Mayor Jason Shelton recognizing March 2014 as “Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month” in Tupelo. This type cancer is the third leading cause of cancer deaths, second to lung and breast cancer, in men and women in the United States. Most of these diagnoses will occur in people aged 50 and older with African-Americans being 10 per cent more likely to contract this serious illness. The American Cancer Society recommends that all people be screened starting at age 50 or earlier if there is a family history of colorectal cancer or polyps.

**IN THE MATTER OF PROCLAMATION IN RECOGNITION OF “CHILD**  
**ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH”**

Mayor Shelton next read and presented a Proclamation in recognition of “Child Abuse Prevention Month”. The month of April 2014 is declared to be “Child Abuse Prevention Month” in Tupelo and the Proclamation urges the support of all citizens of the city to make possible a greater appreciation for the state of these vulnerable children. This problem “is a growing one in the country, state, county and city which constitutes a heinous crime,” quoting from the Proclamation. An awareness of the problem of child abuse is the first step in fighting this problem.

**IN THE MATTER OF MAYOR’S REPORT**

Following are highlights of Mayor Shelton’s report for this meeting:

...Recognized Director Todd Hunt and the entire staff at the BancorpSouth Arena for putting together a great event for the “State of the City” last week.

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At this event, Johnny Timmons, Director of Tupelo Water and Light Department, was recognized for his forty years of service to the citizens of the City of Tupelo.

...Thanked once again the Tupelo Public Works Department, Tupelo Water and Light Department, the Tupelo Fire Department and the Tupelo Police Department for working around the clock for the safety of the citizens of the city during the recent periods of inclement weather.

...Expressed appreciation to Natalia Davis and Sally Williams for serving as chaperones on the recent Mayor's Youth Council trip to Columbus, Mississippi. The students are doing a great job under the leadership of Ms. Chris Jones and represented the City of Tupelo well at the leadership retreat last weekend.

...Congratulated the entire staff of Tupelo Parks and Recreation Department, particularly Amy Kennedy and the crew at the Tupelo Aquatic Center, for hosting a very successful swim meet over the past weekend. The meet hosted hundreds of participants over three days which means thousands of meals and hotel rooms were enjoyed in our city.

...A "Thank You" to Michael Russell, Chief Bart Aguirre and the entire Tupelo Police Department and the Police Athletic League. This group and their community partners fund-raised and presented the Stauffer and Maher families with vacation packages. Mayor Shelton stated it was a memorable and touching event and he was appreciative to all the community partners who were involved.

...Mayor Shelton made public recognition and offered congratulations to David Rumbarger and the entire team at the Community Development Foundation along with Three Rivers Development and many other community partners in economic development. New and existing industry activity in Tupelo's micropolitan area in 2013 created more than 900 new jobs and involved more than \$78 million in capital improvements. This activity was enough to earn the second highest rank in the nation by Site Selection magazine out of 576 areas nationwide ranked on new and expanded industry.

...Noting Tupelo High School activities, Tupelo High School Athletics placed No. 4 in the MaxPreps.com Cup for Fall 2013 sports. These standings are based on first and second place State finishes. He offered congratulations to Andy Schoggin, the THS Athletic Director, for this huge accomplishment. Mayor Shelton, also, offered congratulations to the Tupelo High School Lady Wave and Men's Basketball teams who both completed their seasons, just shy of making the State tournaments last week.

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...Comcast made an exciting announcement today at the Boys and Girls Club. They offered qualifying families internet access for less than \$10.00 per month and donated another \$25,000 to support technology improvements at the Boys and Girls Club.

...Congratulated seventh-grader Maria Kalchenko who won the regional Mid-South Spelling Bee in Memphis to qualify for the Scripps National Spelling Bee in Washington, D. C., in May.

...Thanked the Tupelo Rotary Club for the invitation to speak at their meeting last week, stating it was an honor to address our civic leaders.

...The Mayor had attended the marker unveiling commemorating Carver School as part of the Tupelo Heritage Trails Enrichment Program, followed by the student assembly in honor of Black History Month.

...Mayor Shelton ended his report by reminding everyone of upcoming events in the city:

Saturday is the last day to get tickets for “Our Mississippi Honors” event.

The “Don’t Be Cruel” Tupelo BBQ Duel will be held in Fairpark on Friday, March 14 and Saturday, March 15.

The next “Tupelo Fit Event” will be held Saturday, March 8, at the Tupelo Aquatic Center. He invited everyone to come for Aqua Kickboxing at 11:15 a.m.

The event formerly known as “Oleput Festival” has a new name “NOleput Festival” and will be held downtown near the Ice House on April 5 beginning at 11:00 a.m. About 1,000 lbs. of crawfish and other food and drinks will be available as well.

The Salvation Army’s Women’s Auxiliary is hosting its “Empty Bowls” luncheon from 11:00 – 1:00 at the Tupelo Furniture Building this week and the Mayor urged everyone to attend this very important fund-raising event.

**5. PUBLIC AGENDA**

(No Items)

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**6.     ACTION AGENDA**

(No Items)

**7.     ROUTINE AGENDA**

**IN THE MATTER OF REVIEW/APPROVE MINUTES OF REGULAR  
COUNCIL MEETING**

Upon a motion by Councilman L. Bryan and a second by Councilman Palmer, the council voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the regular City Council meeting of Tuesday, February 18, 2014.

**IN THE MATTER OF REVIEW/PAY BILLS**

Upon a motion by Councilman Jennings and a second by Councilman Whittington, the council voted unanimously to approve payment of the following checks, bills having been reviewed at 4:30 p.m. by Council Members Whittington, L. Bryan, Davis and Palmer:

Check Nos. 118400 through 118748 (Pool Cash Fund)  
Electronic transfers as shown on the face of the docket.  
Invoices as shown on the face of the docket.  
Requests made by AFLAC to reimburse employees under Flex-One  
Plan as shown on the face of the docket.

**IN THE MATTER OF REVIEW/APPROVE RE-APPOINTMENTS TO TUPELO  
PLANNING COMMITTEE**

Mayor Shelton had submitted a recommendation to the City Council that two Planning Committee members be reappointed. Upon a motion by Councilman Whittington, seconded by Councilman L. Bryan, the council voted unanimously to reappoint Mrs. Margaret Ann Kennedy and Mr. Rud Robison to serve another term on this Committee. Both terms will be effective January 2014 and expire January 2017. Copies of bios for both members are attached hereto as **APPENDIX A.**

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**IN THE MATTER OF REVIEW/APPROVE REQUEST FOR PERMISSION TO  
PLACE STRUCTURE IN ALLEY RIGHT-OF-WAY**

Upon a motion by Councilman Whittington and a second by Councilman Newell, the council voted unanimously to table this issue.

**IN THE MATTER OF REVIEW/APPROVE RESOLUTION OF DECLARATION  
OF SURPLUS VEHICLES FOR NORTH MISSISSIPPI NARCOTICS UNIT AND  
TUPELO POLICE DEPARTMENT**

Upon a motion by Councilman Palmer, seconded by Councilman L. Bryan, the council voted unanimously to approve a Resolution of Declaration of Surplus Vehicles. The North Mississippi Narcotics Unit/Tupelo Police Department has in its possession vehicles seized and forfeited to these departments. According to the Resolution, these vehicles were purchased by the NMNU and are no longer suitable for official use. The Board of the NMNU has requested these vehicles be declared as surplus and authorized to be sold at public auction. An executed copy of this Resolution, together with a listing of all vehicles, is attached to these minutes and incorporated herein as **APPENDIX B.**

**IN THE MATTER OF REVIEW/ACCEPT MINUTES OF TUPELO MAJOR  
THOROUGHFARE PROGRAM MEETING**

Upon a motion by Councilman Jennings, seconded by Councilman Whittington, the council voted unanimously to accept the minutes of the Tupelo Major Thoroughfare Program meeting of January 3, 2014, a copy being attached to these minutes as **APPENDIX C.**

**IN THE MATTER OF REVIEW/APPROVE REQUEST FOR SOLE SOURCE  
PROVIDER FOR PROJECT**

Alex Farned, Director of Tupelo Department of Parks and Recreation, had submitted a request to Mayor Shelton and the City Council to declare that Arizon Structures be the sole source provider for repairs and maintenance to the air structure (bubble) that is used to cover the tennis courts at City Park. Arizon Structure is the manufacturer of the structure and has submitted a letter dated January 20, 2014, attesting to the various reasons for that company being the sole source provider for the services needed.

Upon a motion by Councilman Whittington, seconded by Councilman Jennings, the council voted unanimously to declare Arizon Structures to be the sole source provider for the repairs and maintenance to the bubble to cover the tennis courts at City Park. A

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copy of the letter from Arizon is attached to these minutes and incorporated herein as **APPENDIX D.**

**IN THE MATTER OF REVIEW/ACCEPT MINUTES OF TUPELO PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD**

Upon a motion by Councilman M. Bryan, seconded by Councilman Palmer, the council voted unanimously to accept the minutes of the Tupelo Parks and Recreation Advisory Board meeting of November 12, 2013, a copy being attached hereto as **APPENDIX E.**

**IN THE MATTER OF REVIEW/APPROVE REQUEST TO DECLARE CERTAIN ITEMS AS SURPLUS**

Johnny Timmons, Manager of the Tupelo Water and Light Department, had submitted a list of items requesting that they be declared as surplus. Upon a motion by Councilman L. Bryan and a second by Councilman Palmer, the council voted unanimously to grant this request and declare the items as surplus. A copy of the same is attached to these minutes and incorporated herein as **APPENDIX F.**

**IN THE MATTER OF REVIEW/APPROVE LIST OF SURPLUS FIXED ASSETS**

Councilman Whittington moved, seconded by Councilman Jennings, to approve a list of fixed items as surplus and to dispose of them as recommended by Kim Hanna, City Clerk. The City Clerk provided the Council listings of the properties in three categories for disposition; property with no fair-market-value, Miss. Code Anno. Sec.17-25-5 (5) to be destroyed or selectively substituted as parts for other items; property lost, missing, or stolen; and property to be auctioned. The City Council voted unanimously to approve the motion. The list of items and the Clerk's recommendations are attached to these minutes and incorporated herein as **APPENDIX G.**

**IN THE MATTER OF REVIEW/ACCEPT MINUTES OF TUPELO REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY MEETING**

Upon a motion by Councilman L. Bryan and a second by Councilman Palmer, the council voted unanimously to accept the minutes of the Tupelo Redevelopment Agency meeting of January 20, 2014, a copy being attached to these minutes as **APPENDIX H.**

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**8. STUDY AGENDA**

**IN THE MATTER OF REVIEW/DISCUSS AMENDMENTS TO LOT MOWING PENALTIES**

At the request of two council members, this item will be moved to the next agenda.

**IN THE MATTER OF REVIEW/DISCUSS APPROVAL OF AN ENERGY SERVICE COMPANY AND ENERGY AUDIT FOR TUPELO PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT**

At the request of two council members, this item will be moved to the next agenda.

**9. ADJOURNMENT**

**IN THE MATTER OF ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the council, upon a motion by Councilman M. Bryan, seconded by Councilman L. Bryan, the council voted unanimously to adjourn the regular meeting at 6:40 p.m.

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
PRESIDENT

\_\_\_\_\_  
CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

APPROVED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
MAYOR